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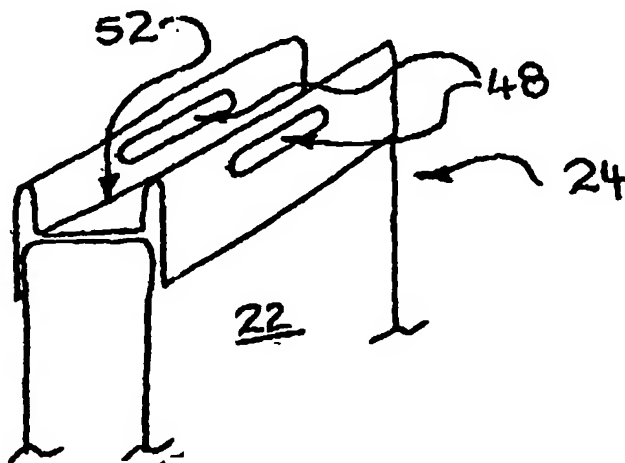
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- Published:**  
— without international search report and to be republished upon receipt of that report
- For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.*

(54) Title: BAG WITH HANDLE



(57) Abstract: A method of forming a bag is provided. The method includes providing an elongate tubular member (22) having opposed ends, at least one end (24) of which defines an open mouth (26). The method further includes folding opposed portions (28, 30, 32, 34) of the tubular member (22) to extend at least partially across the mouth (26). The method also includes positioning a panel (36) to extend across the opposed portions (28, 30, 32, 34). The method further includes securing the panel 36 and the opposed portions (28, 30, 32, 34) together thereby to close the mouth (26) at the at least one end (24) of the tubular member (22).

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

PCT/ZA 03/00157

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER  
 IPC 7 B65D33/10 B31B19/86

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)  
 IPC 7 B65D B31B

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the International search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category * | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages   | Relevant to claim No.                      |
|------------|--|--|
| X          | WO 91/04918 A (POKLUKAR JOSEF G)<br>18 April 1991 (1991-04-18)<br><br>page 8, line 28 - page 9, line 2; figures<br>7,8,11,12 | 1,2,4,6,<br>7,13,14,<br>20,21,<br>23,25,30 |
| X          | US 5 158 368 A (LICHTWARDT HARLOW E ET<br>AL) 27 October 1992 (1992-10-27)<br>the whole document                             | 20,21,25                                   |
| X          | US 4 877 337 A (WOOD JERRY W)<br>31 October 1989 (1989-10-31)<br>the whole document  | 20   |
| A          | GB 2 016 999 A (UNION CARBIDE CORP)<br>26 September 1979 (1979-09-26)<br>claim 1; figure 9                                   | 1  |

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

## \* Special categories of cited documents:

"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

"E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date

"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)

"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention.

"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

26 February 2004

Date of mailing of the international search report

02.07.2004

Name and mailing address of the ISA

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Fournier, J

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.  
PCT/ZA 03/00157

## Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☐ Claims Nos.:  
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
  
2. ☒ Claims Nos.: 47-48  
because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:  
see FURTHER INFORMATION sheet PCT/ISA/210
  
3. ☐ Claims Nos.:  
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

## Box II Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

see additional sheet

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
  
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
  
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
  
4. ☒ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

1-34

### Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
- ☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

Continuation of Box I.2

Claims Nos.: 47-48

Claims 47 and 48 violate Rule 6.2 a) PCT.

The applicant's attention is drawn to the fact that claims relating to inventions in respect of which no international search report has been established need not be the subject of an international preliminary examination (Rule 66.1(e) PCT). The applicant is advised that the EPO policy when acting as an International Preliminary Examining Authority is normally not to carry out a preliminary examination on matter which has not been searched. This is the case irrespective of whether or not the claims are amended following receipt of the search report or during any Chapter II procedure. If the application proceeds into the regional phase before the EPO, the applicant is reminded that a search may be carried out during examination before the EPO (see EPO Guideline C-VI, 8.5), should the problems which led to the Article 17(2) declaration be overcome.

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

PCT/ZA 03/00157

| Patent document<br>cited in search report |   | Publication<br>date | Patent family<br>member(s)   | Publication<br>date  |
|---|---|---------------------|--|--|
| WO 9104918                                | A | 18-04-1991          | AU 6438590 A<br>WO 9104918 A1  | 28-04-1991<br>18-04-1991   |
| US 5158368                                | A | 27-10-1992          | NONE   |  |
| US 4877337                                | A | 31-10-1989          | NONE   |  |
| GB 2016999                                | A | 26-09-1979          | AT 380431 B<br>AT 218279 A<br>AU 532444 B2<br>AU 4537279 A<br>BE 875080 A1<br>CA 1114215 A1<br>CH 628283 A5<br>DE 2910517 A1<br>FR 2420423 A1<br>IE 48194 B1<br>IT 1114748 B<br>MX 151561 A<br>NL 7902314 A<br>SE 436180 B<br>SE 7902638 A<br>US 4273550 A | 26-05-1986<br>15-10-1985<br>29-09-1983<br>27-09-1979<br>24-09-1979<br>15-12-1981<br>26-02-1982<br>27-09-1979<br>19-10-1979<br>31-10-1984<br>27-01-1986<br>14-12-1984<br>26-09-1979<br>19-11-1984<br>25-09-1979<br>16-06-1981 |

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

This International Searching Authority found multiple (groups of) inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. claims: 1-34

Subject I (Claims 1-34) relates to a method of forming a bag. Independent claim 20 relates to a bag.

2. claims: 35-46

Subject II (Claims 35-46) relates to a method of forming a bag. Independent claim 41 relates to a bag.

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